

# Problem Solving Learning Progression

I can choose what information is needed to solve the problem and decide what the problem is asking me to do

I'm able to...

- Read the problem
- Identify important info
- Define unfamiliar words
- Identify question

With a few problems, students circle question, underline important info, cross out irrelevant info, and rephrase the question.

I can estimate a reasonable range for my final answer and use it to check my work as I go.

I'm able to...

- Estimate before solving
- Stop partway through and check estimate
- Compare estimate against final answer

Collect frequent estimates. Ex. Have students give estimate to start out all word problems in class. Get them in the habit of estimating. Monitor their progress.

I can choose from a variety of strategies that I have learned.

I'm able to...

- Identify other approaches
- Switch strategies when I am stuck.

With a few problems, students in groups identify various strategies for solving. On Going: Present different approaches to problems in class.

I can choose appropriate tools from the skills I have already learned.

I'm able to...

- Understand and apply formulas and definitions from past math classes.
- Identify needed operations
- Use appropriate order for operations

Have students write problems to match various operations and expression.

I can communicate an effective and reasonable answer with proper labeling.

I'm able to...

- Write my answer as a complete sentence.
- Label my answers with units

Translate a few completed problems into complete sentence answers with correct units.

I can apply numerous skills and strategies to solve a